

USSR

Ref No:

S/NBF/T639

Issued:

/5/10/1954

Copy No: 205

"YURIJ" ASKS PERMISSION TO ACCOMPANY "THE EDITOR" TO COSTA RICA

From:

MEXICO CITY

To:

MOSCON

 $No \cdot :$

559

1 July 1944

To VIKTOR[1].

The EDITOR [RED/KTOR][ii] asks you to allow me to accompany him in the first half of July to Costa Rica to present his credentials. The trip will take from 5 to 7 days.

No. 247

YuRIJ[iii]

Comments: [i] VIKTOR: probably Lt.-General P.M. FITIN.

[ii] REDAKTOR: almost certainly Konstantin Aleksandrovich UMANSKIJ, Soviet Ambassador in Mexico from June 1943 and (in plurality) Soviet Minister in Costa Rica from June 1944. In the annual report from the British Minister in Costa Rica for the year 1944 (dated 22nd January 1945) it was noted that although UMANSKIJ had been appointed Soviet Minister in Costa Rica after the resumption of diplomatic relations in May 1944,

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he had not yet presented his credentials. According to press reports, UMANSKIJ was on his way to Costa Rica to present his credentials as Soviet Minister when he was killed in an air crash near MEXICO CITY on 25th January 1945.

The choice of REDAKTOR as a covername for UMANSKIJ was probably dictated by his long history as a TASS correspondent prior to his diplomatic career.

[iii] YuRIJ: MGB Resident in MEXICO CITY. Possibly Lev